

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the 2nd paragraph on page 6 beginning at line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 1, the preferred embodiment of the invention includes two carabiners 1 and 2, a hollow tube 3, and a durable, slightly elastic band 4. It is preferred that the carabiners 1 and 2 are made of lightweight aluminum with a spring loaded lever 12 in order to minimize weight. It is understood that the spring loaded lever 12 in the preferred embodiment is curved or bent. However, the lever 12 may also encompass a straight lever as well. In their normal static position, the carabiners 1 and 2 remain securely closed. To open the spring loaded lever 12 of the carabiner 1 or 2, a climber must apply pressure to it, causing the spring to retract, thereby opening the spring loaded lever 12. Additionally, in the preferred embodiment, the durable, slightly elastic band 4 is made of a material that becomes taut when stretched or twisted, such as nylon or Spectra®. Moreover, the hollow tube 3 is preferably a lightweight rigid hollow pipe made of plastic, PVC, or carbon fiber. It must be rigid so as to hold the carabiners 1 and 2 in a rigid position ready to be opened and clipped to a fixed anchor in the rock wall, but light enough to be easily carried during a climb.

Please replace the 4th paragraph on page 7 beginning at line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

The first carabiner 1 is alternated between the rigid position and loose position by pulling up on the first carabiner 1 and the slightly elastic band 4 as shown in Fig. 3B. The band 4 is then rotated or twisted to either allow the first carabiner 1 to rest in the first pair of notches 7 or the second pair of notches 8. The band 4 has an effective length which is defined

as the length of the band 4 between the first and second carabiners 1 and 2. The radial twisting of the band 4 makes the effective length of the band 4 shorter, and therefore, taut. As described above, the first carabiner 1 is in the rigid position when resting in the first pair of notches 7 and in the loose position when resting in the second pair of notches 8.

Please replace the 2nd paragraph on page 9 beginning at line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Each separate piece of the preferred embodiment is shown in Fig. 6. These pieces attached together create the preferred rock-climbing device. Preferably, the slightly elastic band 4 is drawn through the hollow tube 3 where the first end 10 of the band 4 emerges from the top 5 of the tube 3 and the second end 11 of the band 4 emerges from the bottom 6 of the tube 3. Further, in the preferred embodiment, the first end 10 of the band 4 is fastened to the bottom 13 of the first carabiner 1 and the second end 11 of the band 4 is fastened to the bottom 13 of the second carabiner 2. The first carabiner 1 may rest in either the first pair of notches 7 or the second pair of notches 8 depending on whether the first carabiner 1 is in the rigid or loose position. Additionally, in the preferred embodiment, the band 4 should be a length that is slightly longer than the tube 3 so that the band 4 is taut when the first end 10 and the second end 11 are stretched or twisted and the first carabiner 1 is placed in the first pair of notches 7. The tautness of the band 4 allows the first carabiner 1 to be in a static, rigid position making it easy to attach to an out-of-reach fixed anchor 14.